

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gregory L. Throne (Reg. No. 39,398) on 19 February 2009.

This application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Replace claim 1, 8 and 9 as follows (Clean Copy).

Claim 1:

A method of granting access to content on a storage medium, said method comprising the steps of:

configuring a processor to perform the steps of:

obtaining cryptographic data from a property of the storage medium;

reading helper data from the storage medium; and

granting the access based on an application of a delta-contracting function to the cryptographic data and the helper data based on an output value, wherein the helper data defines ranges of values for the cryptographic data and the delta-contracting function defines a

corresponding output value for each range of values for the cryptographic data so that the helper data can be made to adapt the cryptographic data for a particular storage medium carrier in tolerating small deviations in the obtained cryptographic data.

Claim 8:

A device arranged for granting access to content on a storage medium, said device comprising:

first reading means for obtaining cryptographic data from a property of the storage medium;

second reading means for reading helper data from the storage medium; and

access control means for granting the access based on an application of a delta-contracting function to the cryptographic data and the helper data based on an output value, wherein the helper data defines ranges of values for the cryptographic data and the delta-contracting function defines a corresponding output value for each range of values for the cryptographic data so that the helper data can be made to adapt the cryptographic data for a particular storage medium carrier in tolerating small deviations in the obtained cryptographic data.

Claim 9:

A playback and/or recording apparatus comprising:

playback/recording means for playing back and/or recording data to a storage medium;
and

a device arranged for granting access to content on the storage medium, said device comprising:

first reading means for obtaining cryptographic data from a property of the storage medium;

second reading means for reading helper data from the storage medium; and

access control means for granting access to the storage medium by the

playback/recording means based on an application of a delta-contracting function to the cryptographic data and the helper data based on an output value, wherein the helper data defines ranges of values for the cryptographic data and the delta-contracting function defines a corresponding output value for each range of values for the cryptographic data so that the helper data can be made to adapt the cryptographic data for a particular storage medium carrier in tolerating small deviations in the obtained cryptographic data.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The above mentioned claims are allowable over prior arts because the CPA (Cited Prior Art) of record fails to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations recited in claims 1, 8 and 9 (& associated dependent claims).

The present invention is directed to a method for granting access to content on a storage medium, said method comprising obtaining cryptographic data from a property of the storage medium and reading helper data from the storage medium. No singular art disclosing, nor motivation to combine has been found of granting the access based on an application of a delta-contracting function to the cryptographic data and the helper data based on an output value, wherein the helper data defines ranges of values for the cryptographic data and the delta-contracting function defines a corresponding output value for each range of values for the

cryptographic data so that the helper data can be made to adapt the cryptographic data for a particular storage medium carrier in tolerating small deviations in the obtained cryptographic data.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Longbit Chai whose telephone number is 571-272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Longbit Chai/

Primary Patent Examiner

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2/21/2009